

Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body
Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE –
Governor’s Forest Health Council

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

May 13th, 2010
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
County Supervisors Association Building
1905 West Washington Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Objective: To review and discuss the Statewide Assessment, to review a prediction on the 2010 Fire Season, to receive and update on the 4-Forest Restoration Initiative, to hear about the Wildland Fire Leadership Council Meeting including the Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire Management, to discuss the Western Governors’ Association FHAC meeting, and to discuss distribution of the Living with Fire paper.

1.) Call to Order ~ 9:07a.m.

Members Present:

Co- Chair Ethan Aumack, Co-Chair Molly Pitts, Don Berry, Brenda Burman, Wally Covington, Rob Davis, Steve Gatewood, Bruce Greco, Steve Rosenstock, Larry Stephenson, Tom Klabunde, Rob Smith, Darrell Willis

Members Present via Teleconference Call:

Taylor McKinnon for Todd Schulke

Members Absent:

Don Falk, Mark Herrington, John Metzger, Michael Neal, Todd Schulke, Ron Williams

Staff:

Krista Olson-Blundell

2.) Approval of the Minutes from the March FHC Meeting

- Minutes approved and will be posted to the website

3.) Summary of Council Business Since Last FHC Meeting ~ Ethan Aumack

- Mike Anable, Policy Advisor Natural Resources to Governor Brewer, resigned from position and Kevin Kinsall has been appointed as his replacement.

4.) State Forestry Division

- Assessment Project Overview~ Steve Gatewood and Glen Buettner
 - Email sent out morning of 5/13 containing link to draft Assessment for review
 - There are now (7) Critical Issues identified in assessment draft, “**Culture**” was added to the original (6)
 - Feedback requested to be received by May 24th
 - Need final Assessment to submit to DC by mid June
 - Acknowledged organizations in this room for assistance & input in this effort

- Strategy is in flux
 - Need goals & objectives for the (7) critical issues
 - Statewide action items
 - State forest – what programs| resources that SF can implement
 - How to tackle gaps?
 - Identify gaps
 - Taylor McKinnon acknowledged via telephone he would like to be involved
 - Roll-out Process
 - Approval process to DOA in DC from SF will take about 2-3 months for approval. Will have a review in region prior to sending to DC in June.
 - Implementation can begin as soon as all is agreed upon. Vicki C. signs off on for SF at regional.
- Question to Council: Do we want to provide comments as a collective whole or as individuals.
 - Decided to provide as individuals/organizations not as FHC.
- 2010 Fire Season ~ Scott Hunt
 - Scott gave a presentation on the forecast for the 2010 fire season in the state and region. View at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/fhc/Presentations.asp>

5.) Mike Anable | Kevin Kinsall Introduction ~ Ethan Aumack

- Mike Anable stopped by meeting to thank the Council for their hard work, to advise of his departure to return to the private sector and to introduce Kevin who is stepping in as his replacement Monday May 17th.
- Kevin will do his best to attend a meeting in the near future to understand the role the FHC plays.
- Mike says keep pushing forward and keep lines of communication open. Need to continue to break barriers.
- Mike A. reiterated that letter from Gov Brewer focused on recommendations was very well received by WGA.
- Need to create vision and move forward and feels regional folks are ready to help on this.
- Money is always in issue but help and support is also paramount.
- Decisions need to be based on best available science.

6.) Presentation on 4-FRI ~ Henry Provencio & Courtney Schultz (4-FRI Team Leader)

- Presentation on the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4-FRI)
- Available for viewing at: <http://azgovernor.gov/fhc/presentations.asp>
- Oregon state is doing assessment w/ ARRA \$'s, Arizona is one of the states they are analyzing. Henry will work with them to not duplicate efforts of 4FRI landscape assessment and to provide information for assistance.
- FLRA proposal is available, will be posted to their website.

7.) Recap of the Wildland Fire Leadership Council Meeting ~ Ethan Aumack

- Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire Management.
- Coordinating responses at federal level.
- Inclusion now of Homeland Security in this body. USDA, DOI, Homeland Security.
- In March, given charge to develop cohesive strategy required by Flame Act 2009, need to provide to Congress by November 1.
 - As part of Flame Act, Congress requires 3 part strategy:
 - a.) Develop & Refine Wildfire response
 - b.) Firewise Communities
 - c.) Landscape Restoration

- Two track development of strategy:
 - Convening of scientists
 - Outreach to stakeholders
 - Forums being conducted in AZ

8.) Recap of Western Governors' Association FHAC Meeting ~ Ethan Aumack

- Four in attendance representing AZ, Ethan, Molly, Vicki and Tom Cisk.
- Issues ranging from insects, 10 year strategy plan, industry engagement, climate change, diverse topics.
- Trying to find purpose – reform around list of priorities.
- Active discussion in large scale restoration.
- RS: Has approach changed w/ Governor's (change in leadership)?
- EA: Todd may be able to better answer but change is probably due more to staff changes, different styles.

9.) Discussion Regarding Living with Fire Paper Distribution ~ Ethan Aumack

- Ethan advised no funding to produce hard copies, so Grand Canyon Trust stepped up and has 200 printed.
- Ethan passed out list to get FHC input as to whom should receive a hard copy (limited) and/or an electronic copy.

10.) Meeting Schedule and Locations

June 10th, 2010, Show Low

- Molly & Don Berry to coordinate
- Focus on White Mtn. Stewardship contract
- Suggest Molly's husband provide presentation on wildlife elements suggested by both SG & SR
- To include a field trip that views treatments
- Ideas:
 - Sites that are good demonstrations
 - Recent & Older Treatments
 - Mechanized equipment
 - Wood product Pellet Plant

Final Business

- Courtney received word during meeting that letters of support may be included when with FLRA proposal to be submitted today (5/13). There was no opposition from the Council to support as a whole and Ethan agreed to draft letter on behalf of FHC.
- Glen reminded FHC of field forum to discuss the Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire Management on 5/14 in Phoenix, Krista to resend email invite this afternoon.

11.) Call to the Public

- No Comment

This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.

Dated this May 24th, 2010
Governor's Forest Health Council
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

CO-CHAIRS

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust
 Molly Pitts, Northern Arizona Wood Products Association

Person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Krista Olson-Blundell at 602-771-1183 or kristao@azcommerce.com. Requests should be made as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.